

NCNA HEADS AND TALES

The Official Publication of the
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement
To Promote and To Serve Northern California Numismatics

One Hundred-Eleventh (111th) Issue

September 2014
Volume XXXIII, Number 3

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Robin Williams: *"Being In The Same Room With People and Creating Something Together Is A Good Thing."*

2013—2104 NCNA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Fred G. van den Haak-----	President
Jon-Maria Marish-----	First Vice-President
Lloyd G. Chan-----	Second Vice-President
Donald L. Hill-----	Secretary
Michael S. Turrini-----	Treasurer

DEADLINE FOR ONE HUNDRED TWELVETH (112th) ISSUE-----December 1st

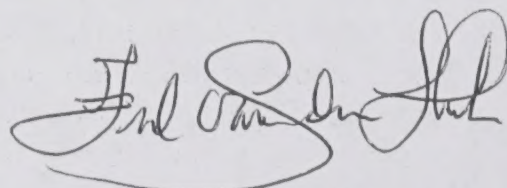
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Writing this President's message, I am thinking of problems that continue to affect our hobby and numismatic organizations and Coin Clubs in particular. The N.C.N.A. is not immune to these as our Association continues to slowly lose membership and we have had great difficulty in getting members to serve as officers in our bi-annual elections! This year is no exception! No one has come forward to run for office and fortunately the current officers will continue to serve yet another two-year term. On the one hand, this is good as it averts a crisis and maintains stability. On the other hand, lack of "new" Board members stifles the democratic process and possible change that could benefit our organization. The current Board is doing its best with new initiatives such as our First Annual California Numismatic Seminar on Saturday, November 29, 2014. It will be held in the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 734 Marin at Capital, in downtown Vallejo. We will have 4 speakers and admission is FREE, along with door prizes. There is ample parking available! Additionally, we have voted positively on a 2014 recipient for the "Ron Miller Award", with an engraved silver medal award to be presented at the December 2014 Fairfield Coin Club and Vallejo Numismatic Society Joint Christmas Party.

To continue on this subject as related to a N.C.N.A. member coin Club currently in crisis: The Liberty Numismatic Society of Millbrae currently has only one elected Officer remaining on its Board (he most regrettably is on extended family medical leave), and thus is in dire crisis! L.N.S. was started in 1957 and has a long history of serving collectors in the immediate Millbrae area. L.N.S. has been active with annual medal issues until several years ago and has had regular annual numismatic book auctions to benefit collectors. Liberty meetings are in Millbrae on the third Wednesday of each month, and take place in the Millbrae City Library, 1 Library Avenue, 6:30 PM. If you are available and willing to volunteer, your help would be greatly appreciated in this time of critical need.

Included with this and all issues of "Heads and Tails", is the updated N.C.N.A. Coin Show listing. This is provided as a service to our members. If your Coin Club has a Coin Show, please contact me as soon as possible to be included in our listing. At a time when commercial coin shows are expanding in California, especially Northern California, such cooperation is critical and more important than ever before. Local Coin Clubs, along with State and national numismatic organizations often depend on income from their Annual Coin Shows for a majority of their operating budgets. Additionally, youth programs, coin hobby promotion events, journals and Club bulletins and educational programs to support our coin collecting hobby are often all dependant on funds generated by Coin Show activities.

I can be contacted via e mail: fredvdh@gmail.com, or by writing to P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306-0484. Phone number: 650-380-4181



Fred G. van den Haak
September 2014

MINTMASTER'S QUILL: An Editor's Prerogative

Greetings!

Being a quarter century member of the Sons of Italy, local branch here in Vallejo, California, I receive the monthly Grand Lodge of California's IL LEONE, which means 'lion', the fraternal symbol of the Sons of Italy.

Candidly, it has been a decade since your truly attend one of the local lodge's always well-fed social gatherings or fund-raising happenings. But, being a proud Italian-American, from both my parents, it is part of my heritage and upbringing.

The most recent IL LEONE issue had some commentaries by the Membership Committee Chair, which are applicable and appropriate for our local coin clubs and numismatic organizations and worth reiterating here:

One: "Use testimonials from members who are not active BUT still feel that membership is valuable. Ask those who are not active but who continue to renew to contact other inactive members and convince them to renew."

Two: "Involve new members in activities immediately. Have them participate in an event (activity) as soon as they show an interest. Get them working on a goal (or with something) so they will feel needed and important."

Three: "Periodically ask long-term members what their interests are, as these will develop and change over time."


Four: "Remind them (members) that the success of 'their local coin club' depends on their dedication to staying involved."

Five: "Make sure that 'your local coin club' activities (and programs) are still relevant for your community and your members. Periodically, try something new."

Our Club Members and other numismatic organizations are welcome to glean what is possible from the above five suggestions. While the five thoughts may seem only for fraternal organizations----*which as with all organizations are struggling with declining membership*----there is value in learning and selecting from other avocations and involvements. In fact, the Chair appeals to the local Sons of Italy lodges around California to share and to report what has worked to recruit, to retain, and to reinstate members, and Your Editor asks the same of all NCNAers.

"People Who Work Together Will Win, Whether It Is Against Complex Football Defenses or The Problems Of Modern Society."----Vince Lombardi

Rappelez-vous, amusez-vous avec vos Loisirs! Servez toujours les autres! Profitez de votre collection! Et, creer de l'espoir et de faire le bein! (*Practicing Learning French!*)



GOOD MINER DIGGINGS: NCNA Happenings

Educational Seminar

First Annual
CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC SEMINAR
Saturday, November 29, 2014
Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum
734 Marin, at Capital, in downtown Vallejo, California
Door Opens 9:00 AM

Theme: *'Great Collectors and Grand Collections'*

Four Presenters----Free Admission----Door Prizes

The four presenters, in alphabetical order and as confirmed, are: **Alexander B. 'Xan' Chamberlain**, from Palo Alto, California and nationally known error specialist, talking about coin errors, **Robert E. 'California Viking' Sather**, from Rio Vista, California, who would enthrall about Scandinavian coinages. **Michael M. 'Steamer' Stanley**, of Concord, California, who will rub elbows with the great names that were Krause Publication's 'Numismatic Ambassadors', and then 'the kid', **Taylor A. Webb**, 14, from Fremont, California, who will give his youthful perspective of the famous Bass Collection.

As this NCNA HEADS AND TALES issue is being prepared and printed, the actual speaking order has not been scheduled. Taylor would be, however, in the morning, due to his potential transportation priority. There would be two presents before Noon and two in the afternoon.

Along with the programs, the Seminar will end with a free Door Prize drawing, and there is *tentatively* planned a simple 'lunch wagon' service on site along with the eateries within walking distance. The Museum would be open free to all attendees along with the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) Library, which is housed within the Museum.

NCNA President Fred G. van den Haak would be the Moderator, and he welcomes all NCNAers and others to attend and to enjoy this Seminar, even for a few hours.

In response to a few initial inquiries, this Seminar was scheduled for the Saturday, of Thanksgiving Weekend, due to availability at the Museum, and the Museum was selected since it has been the venue for like events over the past few years, and its Executive Director is a strong supporter.

Admission is FREE, and there is ample free street and off-street parking with convenient access into the Museum. The Seminar would be on the Second Floor in the Heritage Theatre. Registration begins at 9:00AM outside the Theatre.

Updates would be posted on www.solanocoinclub.com, and inquiries may be to EMPERORI@juno.com

Note: This Seminar, planned to be an annual event, is **NOT** a California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) sponsored or supported educational event.

'Seminar Patrons'

President van den Haak and your Executive Officers proudly announce, as of September 15, 2014, the following are 'Patrons':

Benefactors

James H. Laird, as James and Lisa Laird
Alamo, California

Alexander B. 'Xan' Chamberlain
Palo Alto, California

Gold Miner

Donald L. Hill
Vallejo, California

Clifford L. Mishler
Waupaca, Wisconsin

Michael M. Stanley
Concord, California

Michael S. Turrini
Vallejo, California

San Francisco Coin Club

Fred G. van den Haak
Palo Alto, California

Prospector

Paul R. Johnson
Unionville, Ontario, Canada

Kenneth K. Takahashi
San Francisco, California

Attached to the front/title page is the flier for becoming a 'Patron' and all NCNA HEADS AND TALES readers are welcome to become 'Patrons'. Any funds not expended this year would be held toward next year's, 2015, intended Seminar. All 'Patrons' would be listed in the January 2015 NCNA HEADS AND TALES. The deadline for contributing as a 'Patron' is November 15, 2014.

Thanks To These 'Patrons'!

Post Office Box Dilemma

Due to the 2014 Napa, California Earthquake, both Vallejo, California's Main Post Office and the auxiliary post office, where our Association's post box is located, have been closed, and service and retrieval of mail has become a hassle at another postal facility: waiting in line and poor parking. *Please Be Advised: Replies and actions to mail sent to 'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California' may be delayed, and this includes also mail for the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) and California Exonumist Society (CES).*

2014 Election

With no interest or even inquiries from the membership and with the current five Executive Officers willing to continue for an additional term, *unless there are objections*, the current five Executive Offices would be, by acclamation, reelected for another term.

If any NCNAer is willing to serve and to assist our Association, please do contact via 'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410'.

Note: Our Association holds biannual elections, terms being for two years.

2014 Miller Medal

As **President van den Haak** noted in his 'President's Message', this year there was an honoree selected for coveted '*Miller Medal*', and the announcement and presentation is planned for Saturday, December 13, 2014 during the Fairfield Coin Club and Vallejo Numismatic Society's Twenty-Eighth (28th) Annual Joint Christmas Party in Vallejo, California.

The single honoree for 2014 would be reported in the January 2015 NCNA HEADS AND TALES issue.

Donnell Award

Along with the esteemed '*Miller Medal*', the Association also sponsors the '*Donnell Award*', and Club Members---local coin clubs current with membership in our Association---may request a maximum of two (2) per calendar year. Already there is a request for 2015.

Requests, with supporting documentation, mail to 'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410' or email to EMPERORI@juno.com. Include the full and proper name of the honoree, date to be bestowed, and requesting local coin club.

A donation of \$10.00, per 'Medal', from the Club Member would be appreciated.

The selection is the prerogative of the Club Member, local coin club.

Board Meeting

President van den Haak has scheduled a Board Meeting during the **Peninsula Coin Club's Thirty-Fifth (35th) Annual Coins and Collectibles Show, Sunday, November 2, 2014, at Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, in San Jose, California.**

The Board would assemble at 11:00 AM at the 'information table' located at the Show' entry. The agenda would be informal. Any Club Member is invited to send a participating Club Delegate. You may either call 650-380-4181 or email fredvdh@gmail.com.

2015 Dues

Heads Up: The January 2015 NCNA HEADS AND TALES would include the 2015 Dues Notice. Dues rate remains \$5.00 for Individual Member and \$10.00 for Club Member.

The Peace Dollar

By Brian Maxfield

This month's Coin of the Month theme is any coin (or currency) with a war related connection. This opens the door to many options. Civil war productions are many and include fractional currency, civil war tokens and two cent pieces. Other coins include "war" nickels, steel cents and a multitude of commemoratives including the Grant Memorial, Stone Mountain, and more recent Civil War releases.

One of the more positive war related coin stories is the Peace Dollar. The idea was conceived by Farren Zerbe, past president of the ANA. He released a paper at the 1920 ANA Convention titled "Commemorate the Peace with a Coin for Circulation." The initial idea was for a Peace commemorative half dollar, ultimately rejected by the Congress. The Commission of Fine Arts became involved, recommending a change to the Morgan Dollar, which was finally approved by Secretary of the Treasury Andrew Mellon during the summer of 1921. A design contest was held which included submissions from famous sculptors including Victor D. Brenner, Hermon MacNeil and Adolf Weinman. The ultimate winner was Anthony DeFrancisci. He utilized his new wife, Teresa, to be the model for the Liberty head obverse of the coin. By the time dies were ready it was very late in the year. This was complicated by a need for a last minute change to the reverse. The original design had the eagle clutching a broken sword. Public (pictures of the expected design had been released) and Treasury officials became increasingly critical of the design. A last minute adjustment to the hub was performed by George Morgan on December 23rd. A total of just





over one million 1921 Peace Dollars were minted during the last three days of 1921. The 1921 dollars had a high relief, resulting in poor die life and a quick change to a lower relief starting in 1922.

The coin was met with some initial criticism of the design. Many thought that Liberty looked more like a flapper of the era, and earned the term "flapper dollar." (Flappers were women in the 20's who

wore short skirts, excessive make-up, drank, smoked and drove automobiles) The Wall Street Journal was very critical of the Peace Dollar, stating "the whole thing is bad" and suggesting it be withdrawn and redesigned.

The Peace Dollar went on to be minted through 1935, excluding the years 1929 through 1933. A complete set includes only 24 date and mintmark combinations. A circulated set of Peace Dollars can be achieved in the \$1,000-\$1,200 range. The only difficult years for circulated examples are the 1928 and the 1921. In uncirculated condition, many "common" later dates become very difficult. This includes the 1924-S, 1927, 1927-D, 1928-S, 1934-D, 1934-S and 1935-S. The 1925-S, which is not that difficult to find in MS-60 becomes prohibitively rare in MS-65 as does the 1928-S, both at or above \$20,000 in that grade. Both of these coins had mintages a little over 1.5 million but very poor strikes led to very few quality high grade examples. There were several hundred thousand 1964-D Peace Dollars minted in 1965, although this idea was fairly quickly scrapped and all of the coins were melted. It is widely believed that there was a few (?) that escaped melting. Any that might be privately owned are likely to never see the light of day since they would immediately be confiscated by the government.

COIN SHOW SCHEDULE

These coin Club show listings are provided as a free service to the numismatic community by the Northern California Numismatic Association. Show listings are updated quarterly and are available without cost to member Coin Clubs. If you would like to have a show listed, please send all pertinent show information early to: N.C.N.A., Fred G. van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306-0484. You may also e mail the information to: fredvdh@gmail.com

The joint website for the Fairfield Coin Club, Solano Silver Round Club, Vallejo Numismatic Society and Northern California Numismatic Association is: www.solanocoinclub.com

- Oct. 3-4, 2014 **SACRAMENTO** Sacramento Valley Coin Club Annual Fall Coin Show. Four Points by Sheraton, 4900 Duckhorn Drive, Sacramento 95834. Hours 10AM-6PM on Friday the 23rd and 10AM to 4PM on Saturday the 4th. Bourse: Robert Shanks, 10 Fox Oak Court, Sacramento, CA 95831. Phone: 916-204-5168. Ample Free parking. **Admission \$3, Under 18 FREE.**
- Oct. 18-19, 2014 **STOCKTON**. Delta Coin Club 50th Annual Coin Show, Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton. Bourse: Ruben Smith III, P.O. Box 5787, Stockton, CA. 95205. Phone (209) 982-5961, E Mail: rubensmith@hotmail.com.
- Nov. 2, 2014 **SAN JOSE**. Peninsula Coin Club 35th Annual Coins and Collectibles Show, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. Bourse: Fred van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306. Phone: (650) 380-4181 E Mail: fredvdh@gmail.com
- Nov. 29, 2014 **VALLEJO**. The 1st Annual Northern California Numismatic Seminar, sponsored by The Northern California Numismatic Association. Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 73 Marin Street at Capital, in Downtown Vallejo. Four speakers have been scheduled. Registration for this all day event begins at 9AM with presentations beginning at 10AM; the afternoon program begins at 2PM. This is a "FREE" event and there will be door prizes and all interested collectors are welcome to attend. Ample free parking is available.
- Feb. 15, 2015 **SAN JOSE**. "Cupertino" Coin Club 43rd Annual Coin Show, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. Bourse: Bruce Braga (408) 839-1883 or Cupertino Coin Club, P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448. Free Parking. **Admission: \$2 adults**, youth 17 and under free.
- May 17, 2015 **VALLEJO**. Vallejo Numismatic Society 43rd Annual Show, Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador (between Georgia and Florida), Vallejo. Bourse: Edwin Hoffmark, Jr. P O Box 4281, Vallejo, Ca. 94590-0428 Phone: 707-642-8754. E Mail: paper4coin@yahoo.com

July 25-6, 2015 **FREMONT**. Fremont Coin Club 43rd Annual Show, Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont, Ca. Information: (510) 792-1511; Bourse: Vince Lacariere, P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, Ca. 94538

Nov. 1, 2015 **SAN JOSE**. Peninsula Coin Club 36th Annual Coins and Collectibles Show, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. Bourse: Fred van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306. Phone: (650) 380-4181 E Mail: [fredvdh@gmail](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com)